

Fair Housing Testing RFP # S00R5400003

Clarification Questions & Answers

Question 1. The first question was whether the Technical Proposal should have each section tabbed.. This question arises out of the language starting on page 25 that says “Tab 1, Tab 2,” and so on. We were wondering whether the Technical Proposal responses could be provided in a narrative following the order given or if the RFP was requiring that each individual response must be separated and tabbed.

Answer 1. Individual questions should be separated with the Tabs referenced accordingly.

Question 2. Our second concern was pertaining to Tab 7 of the Technical Proposal, “Economic Benefit to the State of Maryland” on pages 28 and 29. Section G. requires that we provide “examples of economic benefits to be derived from a contract may include any of the following. For each factor identified below, identify the specific benefit and contractual commitments and provide a breakdown of expenditures in that category.” In particular our concern is with number 4: “subcontract dollars committed to Maryland small businesses and MBEs.” As we understand MBE requirement for this RFP is ten percent of the overall contract price and if bidders supply a “breakdown of expenditures” for “subcontract dollars committed to small businesses and MBEs” in relation to the “specific contractual benefit” derived from the work done under this proposal, the bidder is essentially disclosing their overall bid for the entire job because an evaluator would be able to easily calculate the entire bid price if a specified percentage of the total cost is supplied by the bidder. We would like to know how we should proceed with this response to best comply with the requirements of the RFP.

Answer 2. This should not pose any problems as technical proposals will be evaluated before Price Proposals are opened. However, if Offerors are uncomfortable including the information required in Sec 5.2B, Tab 7, G4 within their Technical Proposal, they may include it as part of their Price Proposal. In any case, Offerors are advised to reference relevant sections in their submissions just to enable the evaluators know where to find requested information.